



TOWN OF HAMDEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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ZOOM MEETING ID: 954 8418 0794
PASSWORD: trail
CALL IN NUMBER: 1 646 558-8656

Minutes: The Farmington Canal Commission, Town of Hamden, held a Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 via Zoom. The following topics were discussed.

Commissioners in Attendance: Mr. Horowitz, Mr. Schaefer, Mr. Reger, Ms. Sharma, Mr. Anton, Mr. Mallory

Others in Attendance: Assistant Town Planner Mr. Davis, Commission Clerk Ms. Tobin

1. Call to Order

Mr. Schaefer called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. He reported that he delivered the Resolution to retiring Town Planner Dan Kops, who was very appreciative.

2. Review Minutes of December 1, 2020.

Mr. Reger made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2020 meeting. Mr. Horowitz seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

3. Report from Matt Davis

Mr. Davis reported that he has not received budget information from the administration to date. He will let Commissioners know when he has more information. He also heard indirectly about plans for one stop shopping for permits, etc. He is not sure about funding for ongoing maintenance of the trail. He said the Town Engineer is already concerned.

Mr. Schaefer said we should think of doing something for the trail in the capital budget. There are huge ruts on the southern end. We were getting funding every year. He would think we would have a systematic repair schedule on the southern end. If not maintained it will get really bad, and this is a safety problem. We need to push for that. Mr. Horowitz said south of Treadwell Street it is dangerous for users other than bikes. This is a risk management issue. Mr. Reger mentioned that the Town is not liable if it is not charging for use of the trail. Mr. Davis mentioned that in his neighborhood, streets were not maintained on a regular basis, and they got so bad they actually had to rebuild the roads. Mr. Davis said the Town is looking at the trail from an Economic Development perspective. He will draft a letter to the Mayor for review by Commissioners. Money is tight. Mr. Schaefer asked Mr. Davis to research funding for the trail over the past five years so we can include it in the letter. He also mentioned that while using the trail, if Commissioners see any bad spots, they could take a picture. Mr. Mallory will be doing

that in the northern portion of the trail, probably from Brooksvale Avenue to the Skiff Street bridge. Mr. Anton rode the trail about 1.5 weeks ago and said there are some bad spots near Home Depot. There was also a lot of graffiti on the wall of the Wilbur Cross Parkway bridge. He whitewashed the whole thing but left the genie. Because the wall surface was too cold, the paint failed and all of the graffiti reappeared.

Mr. Horowitz mentioned that the Town has not been working on the canopy. Perhaps they will get to that soon. He said he has been hit on the head by low branches a couple of times.

Mr. Reger made a motion that the Farmington Canal Commission authorize Mr. Davis to draft a letter to be sent to the Mayor requesting capital budget funding to repair the southern end of the Farmington Canal Trail. Mr. Mallory seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Missed a couple of minutes here due to Zoom failure.

Mr. Anton reported that Eagle Scout Xander Fioretti is moving forward with his project. He had a couple of setbacks due to Covid-19 and was able to get an extension from the Scouts. He is building a kiosk to be installed near the southern end of the trail and will do some fundraising for supplies if necessary. Mr. Horowitz mentioned that Xander could contact him because there are funds available through the Farmington Canal Rails to Trails Association. Mr. Anton told him that we are excited and grateful for his project.

4. Phase I Update (Mt. Sanford Road to Todd Street)
5. Phase IIA Update (Todd Street to Hamden Hills Drive)
6. Phase IIB Update (Hamden Hills Drive to Connolly Parkway)
7. Phase III Update (Connolly Parkway to New Haven Line)
8. Mr. Davis mentioned that there is a huge dumpster blocking the beautiful mural at the Hamden New Haven border of the trail. It is on private property.
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Adjournment

Mr. Schaefer thanked everyone for 100% attendance at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Reger made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Anton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by: _____